

The Whole

L. Loran (P.)

1114-a

Life and Conversation; Birth;
Parentage and Education

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Deborah Churchill;

Condemn'd some time since
for the Barbarous Mur-
der of Mr. *William Ware*
in *Drury-Lane*, and now
brought down to her for-
mer Judgment.

AS ALSO,

Her Behaviour, Confession,
and last Dying-Words at
the Place of Execution.

L O N D O N :

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*The whole Life and Con-
versation, &c.*

Deborah Churchill, Aged about
27, Condemn'd for the Mur-
der of Mr. John Ware in Drury-
Lane, in Aiding and Abetting
thercof: She was Born in *Essex*, of
very good and honest Parents;
some say her Father was a Parson,
she was brought up in a gentile
manner, and when she grew up,
she went to wait on a Lady here
in Town; where in the Family
she was Debauch'd, and taken
from thence and kept in great
State for Two or Three Years; be-
ing in her younger Days a very
beautiful Woman; but being de-
serted by this Gentleman, and her
Splendor decaying, she took to the
Town

Town, in which Wicked Trade of
Life she continu'd a long time.
One Story is remarkably told of
of this Woman, how among o-
ther Lovers she was once mightily
admir'd of a Gentleman that was
going to *Ireland*, and resolv'd to
take her with him, promising to
settle very handsomly on her when
she came there, and keep her in
Splendor. With this Gentleman
she went to *Ireland*, and arriv'd at
Chester, where she was in Trust of
all he had ; when remembering her
former Pleasures of the Town, and
a Spark she had left behind her,
whom she valu'd more, whilst the
Gentleman was gone to *Nesson* to
see for Shipping, she with the best
of his Movables set out for *Lon-*
don, having more delight in her
old Course of Life, than in the
Enjoyments that she thought *Ire-*
land cou'd afford.

Her usual Haunt was about the Playhouse, where she appear'd in a very great Splendid manner, and was quickly after taken and kept by one *Churchil*, whose Name she assumed, and who settled on her 40 pounds a Year for her Life. But by the Extravagance of her Life she had made good part of that Annuity away.

And now, like most Mistresses of the Town, as she had been kept by several before, she must now have a Paramour of her own, and Engag'd her self with one *Richard Hunt* of the Life-Guard, with whom she liv'd in unlawful Pleasure. But Heaven, that saw the Pride and Wickedness of her sinful Life, Providentially brought her thus to a shameful Death : The Deceased *Mr. Ware*, newly arriv'd from beyond Sea, met her accidentally in *Drury-Lane*, and taking her for a *Woman of the Town*, had something
to

to say to her in a familiar way, which she return'd in a very haughty and provoking manner, and occasion'd him to call her Bitch, or some such odious Name : For which reason, she sought Revenge ; and knowing her Friend Mr. *Hunt* was at an Ale-House hard by, she sent her Maid to call him privately to her, to whom she told how Barbarously the Deceased Mr. *Ware* had us'd her ; who, with one *Lewis*, rush'd out of the House and pursu'd him, Mrs. *Churchill* following. They overtook him at *Vinegar-Yard* End, where *Hunt* bid him Draw, saying, *D---m you, how durst you Affront my Wife ?* Mr. *Ware* endeavour'd to Excuse himself ; but before he cou'd well speak, he receiv'd his Death's Wound ; of which, (being carried to a Neighbouring House) he soon Dy'd.

Hunt and *Lewis* provided for their Safety, and got off in time ; but

Mrs. *Churchill*, who rather Glory'd in the Thing, staid, and was Apprehended for the same, and was strictly Examin'd before a Magistrate, together with her Maid, about the said Murther; where it appearing that she call'd *Hunt* out of the House, and egg'd him on to Revenge, and follow'd him and *Lewis* where the Murther was Committed, and there cry'd, *Crucifie him*: Upon this she was Committed to *Newgate*, where she yet little minded her Condition, not thinking she should be Condemn'd for the same; and therefore liv'd a very Licentious Course of Life. Her Tryal being come, there appear'd many Evidence against her, especially the Gentlewoman of the House from whence she fetch'd Mr. *Hunt*, her Companion; who declar'd, That she heard her tell Mr. *Hunt* how the Deceased had Affronted her, and said, Will you let him

him go off, and when Hunt and Lewis follow'd him, she went after him her self: Also many other aggravating Circumstances were prov'd against her, by which, contrary to her Expectation, she was Condemn'd, and receiv'd Sentence of Death accordingly.

After Sentence she appear'd a little more concern'd than before, and began to be something sensible of her sad Condition and the Heinousness of her Crime. She was call'd down to her former Judgment, and with 9 more Malefactors received Sentence of Death, all which, as 'tis remarkable, were Repriev'd but herself. Her Behaviour after Sentence was indeed very Commendable and Devout, incessantly calling upon God for Forgiveness of her Sins, acknowledging with a clear Heart her Crime to God; and begg'd in particular Forgiveness for it. Thus she

She continu'd till the Day of her Execution, at which time about 11 a Clock she was put into a Coach, attended the Ordinary of *Newgate*: Being come to the place of Execution she was taken out of the Coach and put into a Cart; and after some time a Psalm was sung, she was recommended to God, having a short time allow'd for her last Prayers, she was left to he self, and was then turn'd off, lifting up her Hands, and calling upon God to receive her Soul, in these or the like Ejaculations, *O Sweet Jesus have Mercy upon me. Lord receive my Soul.*

Which is all the Account can be given of this dying Criminal.

P. Lorane, Ordinary.

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